

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 058440
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ARP:JWTTWINAM:CEJ
APPROVED BY NEA:ADUBS
S/S-O:SRVALERGA
NEA - AMBASSADOR WEST
-----009396 072311Z /72

O P 072237Z MAR 78 ZFF6
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE
USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY JIDDA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 058440

EXDIS DISTRIBUTE AS NODIS FOR ATHERTON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, XF, US

SUBJECT: SAUDI POSITION ON ATHERTON VISIT

REFS: (A) JERUSALEM 656, (B) JIDDA 1784

AFTER TALKING WITH AMBASSADOR WET, WE ARE NOT INCLINED TO
PLACE POLITICAL SIGNIFICANCE ON SAUDI PREFERENCE TO BE
BRIEFED IN GENEVA RATHER THAN RETURNING TO SAUDI ARABIA.
AMBASSADOR'S IMPRESSION HAS BEEN THAT WHILE SAUDI VERY MUCH
WANTED YOU TO FEEL WELCOME IN SAUDI ARABIA AT ANY TIME,
FOREIGN MINISTER EXPECTED TO BE YOUR PRIMARY CONTACT FOR
SECRET

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BRIEFING ON CURRENT STATE OF PLAY IN PEACE PROCESS, AND
SAUDI DOUBTED YOU WOULD HAVE A GREAT DEAL TO REPORT AT THIS
STAGE PRIOR TO BEGIN'S WASHINGTON VISIT. AMBASSADOR WEST
SENSED ,HAS FROM THE BEGINNING IN ARRANGING THIS MEETING
THERE HAS BEEN SIGNIFICANT INTERNAL TENSION BETWEEN SAUDI
THE FOREIGN MINISTER AND SAUDI THE SWISS SKI VACATIONER, AND
THUS PRESENT ARRANGEMENTS WOULD APPEAR TO HAVE PUT SAUDI AT

PEACE WITH HTMSELF. VANCE

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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Channel Indicators: n/a
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